

## Testimony Before the Energy & Technology Committee

*Submitted by*

Justin Haaheim, Community Organizer in New Haven, CT

Tuesday March 20, 2012

To: The Connecticut General Assembly and Governor Malloy

From: Connecticut Municipal Leaders

As you know, forty-eight percent of housing units in Connecticut are heated with fuel oil, but the residents in those homes currently have limited and declining access to efficiency programs to help reduce their heating bills. Many municipal facilities and schools are also heated with oil. We are deeply concerned that with the end of federal stimulus funding, oil efficiency programs will disappear almost entirely without action from you.

We, the undersigned representatives of Connecticut municipalities, are writing to ask you, our lawmakers, to create a stable funding source for energy efficiency programs for oil-heating customers. It is critical to act this year as oil prices are rising to \$4 per gallon. Funding oil efficiency proportionately to our state's natural gas efficiency programs will create jobs in our communities, save our residents that use oil heat an average of \$768 each winter, and cut our greenhouse gas emissions by 251,000 short tons.

Connecticut's municipal and residential energy efficiency programs have been around for years and have proven effective at saving CT residents money, improving municipal buildings, and creating jobs. Our municipalities cannot afford to lose those benefits and leave our oil-heating customers out in the cold. We are joining together today to ask you to support legislation in the 2012 session to provide oil customers full access to energy efficiency programs.

Please feel free to contact Justin Haaheim, a representative of this group, with questions or comments: [justin@350.org](mailto:justin@350.org) or 203-936-9006.

Respectfully signed,

Virginia Walton, chair  
Mansfield Energy Education Team  
Mansfield, CT

Michael Harder  
Chair, Hebron Citizens Green Committee  
Hebron, CT

Rick Linden  
Andover Energy Committee  
Andover, CT

Michael D. Okrent  
Chairman Clean Energy Task Force  
Bethany, CT

Donald Feeley  
Analyst, St Raphael's Hospital  
Essex, CT

Stacy Abbott  
Energy and Financial Analyst, Strategic Building Solutions  
Essex, CT

Maryellen Donnelly  
Secretary, Hampton Green Energy Committee  
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Justin Elicker  
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Andy Bauer  
Chair, and on behalf of the Portland Clean Energy Taskforce  
Portland, CT

Letitia Naigles  
Leader, Environmental Ministry, St. John's Episcopal Church  
Vernon, CT

Catherine Diviney  
Energy Manager, Town of West Hartford  
West Hartford, CT

David Mann  
on behalf of the Westport Green Energy Task Force  
Westport, CT

Christina Mailhos  
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Willington, CT

Pamela Wheeler  
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Willington, CT

Bruce Hampson, chair  
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Patrice Gillespie  
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Marcia Wilkins  
Chair, Brookfield Energy Committee  
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Benjamin Martin  
Wallingford Energy Conservation Commission  
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